**COM 200: Assignment 3 - Solutions**

**Total marks: 20**

I. **Identify the error in the following sentences and write them in the correct form:**

***Please note that you have to write the nature of the error, and the corrected sentence.You also have to use correct punctuation marks wherever necessary.* (15 marks)**

1. To be cooked well, you must cover the pan.

**Dangling modifier. For the food to be cooked well, you must cover the pan.**

1. Because Pradeep knew only Hindi, he could not read a sign that he saw on the road written in Bengali.

**Misplaced modifier. Because Pradeep knew only Hindi, he could not read a sign written in Bengali that he saw on the road.**

1. Since IIT Kanpur has a heavy academic load. The students are under a lot of pressure.

**Fragment. Since IIT Kanpur has a heavy academic load, the students are under a lot of pressure.**

1. He enjoyed thoroughly watching the latest science fiction film.

**Misplaced modifier. He thoroughly enjoyed watching the latest science fiction film.**

1. Pay attention to the instructions you must follow them carefully.

**No punctuation. Pay attention to the instructions. You must follow them carefully / Pay attention to the instructions; you must follow them carefully.**

1. Lasers only destroy the target, leaving the surrounding healthy tissue intact.

**Misplaced modifier. Lasers destroy only the target, leaving the surrounding healthy tissue intact.**

1. The robber was described as a six-foot tall man with a moustache weighing 70 kilos.

**Misplaced modifier. The robber was described as a six-foot tall man weighing 70 kilos, and with a moustache / The robber was described as a six-foot tall man weighing 70 kilos with a moustache**.)

1. She is a very sensitive person and she feels not for the wealthy but the poor.

**No punctuation. She is a very sensitive person and she feels, not for the wealthy, but the poor.**

1. I am here on a two day conference and have time to explore the city hardly.

**Misplaced modifier. I am here on a two day conference and hardly have time to explore the city.**

1. As everybody owns a car. The campus has a lot of vehicular traffic.

**Fragment. As everybody owns a car, the campus has a lot of vehicular traffic.**

1. Most of the students sleep late at night and can open their eyes in the morning barely.

**Misplaced modifier. Most of the students sleep late at night and can barely open their eyes in the morning.**

1. Instead of extending a helping hand to the elderly woman whose scooter had broken down the motorist behind her kept honking forcing her to eventually push the scooter away.

**No punctuation. Instead of extending a helping hand to the elderly woman whose scooter had broken down, the motorist behind her kept honking, forcing her to eventually push the scooter away.**

1. The shop had all the essential material that you need for the house like rice, atta, sugar, eggs, milk, salt.

**Use of comma. The shop had all the essential material that you need for the house like rice, atta, sugar, eggs, milk, and salt.**

1. The best way to prepare for an exam is to attend lectures regularly prepare notes yourself and study with concentration the day before.

**No punctuation. The best way to prepare for an exam is to attend lectures regularly, prepare notes yourself, and study with concentration the day before.**

1. Of all the singers in the troupe, she only has the voice and years of training behind her.

**Misplaced modifier. Of all the singers in the troupe, only she has the voice and years of training behind her.**

**II. Correct the syntax-related errors in the following paragraph: (5 marks)**

It is only when we face natural calamities like floods or **droughts that we** human beings realize the extent to which we have destroyed our environment. As rains pound the earth and rivers exceed their banks we can only stand by **in helpless terror** and watch nature’s fury. Torrential rain brings with it floods, landslides, lightning strikes, **and** extensive destruction of agriculture also. It may be cruel **but one** can only think that this is payback time. Scientists have repeatedly warned us of the consequences of our actions that lead to environmental **destruction; however** we hardly pay heed to it.

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